

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 126070
ORIGIN AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 L-03 CCO-00 OPR-02 A-01
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA FLASH
INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE
SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0332
USCINCRD MCDILL AFB FLA IMMEDIATE
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN IMMEDIATE
USNMR SHAPE BELGIUM IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 126070

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, MOPS, PINT, CG, FR, UK, BE

SUBJECT: SHABA INCURSION ZAIRIAN GOVERNMENT REQUEST FOR
U.S. ASSISTANCE IN INTERNATIONAL CONTINGENCY OPERATION

REF: PRECEDING DEPTTEL

1. FOLLOWING IS SUGGESTED TEXT OF LETTER AUTHORIZING
BELGIAN EVACUATION OPERATION AND FRENCH, UK AND U.S.
ASSISTANCE TO THAT EFFORT. WE RECOGNIZE THAT MOBUTU CAN
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PAGE 02 STATE 126070

AMEND TEXT AS HE WISHES BUT HOPE THAT HE WILL PROVIDE
SIGNED REQUEST IN ESSENTIALLY THIS FORM PRIOR TO 5:00 AM
MAY 18, WASHINGTON TIME.

2. BEGIN TEXT:

THE PRESIDENT OF ZAIRE PRESENTS HIS COMPLIMENTS TO THE

AMBASSADORS OF BELGIUM, FRANCE, THE UNITED KINGDOM AND THE UNITED STATES AND HAS THE HONOR TO REFER TO THE DETERIORATING CONDITIONS AFFECTING THE WELL BEING OF EXPATRIATE NATIONALS OF YOUR COUNTRIES CURRENTLY PRESENT IN KOLWEZI. THE OCCUPATION OF THAT CITY BY INSURGENTS HAS MADE IT TEMPORARILY IMPOSSIBLE FOR THE ZAIRE AUTHORITIES TO PROVIDE NORMAL PROTECTION FOR YOUR NATIONALS.

THEREFORE, I AUTHORIZE THE GOVERNMENT OF BELGIUM TO TAKE URGENTLY, STEPS TO EFFECT THE HUMANITARIAN EVACUATION OF FOREIGN NATIONALS FROM KOLWEZI TO AN AREA OF GREATER SAFETY.

I FURTHER AUTHORIZE THE GOVERNMENTS OF FRANCE, THE UNITED KINGDOM AND THE UNITED STATES TO ASSIST THE BELGIAN EFFORT.

ACCEPT, MESSERS AMBASSADORS, THE ASSURANCES OF MY HIGHEST CONSIDERATION.

MOBUTU SESE SEKO, PRESIDENT OF ZAIRE. END TEXT.

3. FOLLOWING IS FRENCH TRANSLATION:

QUOTE: LE PRESIDENT DU ZAIRE PRESENTE SES COMPLIMENTS AUX AMBASSADEURS DE BELGIQUE, DE FRANCE, DU ROYAUME-UNI ET
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PAGE 03 STATE 126070

DES ETATS-UNIS ET A L'HONNEUR DE SE REFERER A LA SITUATION EN VOIE DE DETERIORATION QUI TOUCHE LE BIEN-ETRE DE RESSORTISSANTS DE VOS PAYS SE TROUVANT ACTUELLEMENT A KOLWEZI;. L'OCCUPATION DE CETTE VILLE PAR LES INSURGES FAIT QUE LES AUTORITES DU ZAIRE SONT TEMPORAIREMENT DANS L'IMPOSSIBILITE D'ASSURER LA PROTECTION NORMALE DE VOS RESSORTISSANTS.

PAR CONSEQUENT, J'AUTORISE LE GOUVERNEMENT BELGE A PRENDRE D'URGENCE DES MESURES EN VUE DE PROCEDER A L'EVACUATION HUMANITAIRE DES RESSORTISSANTS ETRANGERS DE KOLWEZI DANS UNE ZONE DE PLUS GRANDE SECURITE.

J'AUTORISE EGALEMENT LES GOUVERNEMENTS FRANCAIS, DU ROYAUME-UNI ET DES ETATS-UNIS A PRETER LEUR CONCOURS A L'EFFORT BELGE.

JE VOUS PRIE D'ACCEPTER, MESSIEURS LES AMBASSADEURS, LES ASSURANCES DE MA PLUS HAUTE CONSIDERATION.

MOBUTU SESE SEKO, PRESIDENT DU ZAIRE. END QUOTE. VANCE

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